

**RECEIPT OF FUNDS
IN EXCESS OF
DEPARTMENT
PAYMENTS**

Whenever payments (Social Security, Veterans Administration, etc.) received by the department for wards, are in excess of the amount expended for the child's care, a savings account will be established by Central Office, Governmental Benefits Coordination and County Chargeback Section, in an interest bearing account for the child. The balance of the account will be available in MiSACWIS. Money in the child's account may be used for the child's benefit and can be withdrawn at the request of the local office director or his/her designee. Requests to utilize these funds can be made in MiSACWIS.

Upon discharge, the account is closed and the excess funds are returned to the Social Security Administration or other originating entity.

Estate, insurance and other lump sum benefits awarded to a state ward or a title IV-E, or limited term and emergency foster care funded court ward should be directed to the Governmental Benefits Coordination and County Chargeback Section.

State Wards

Regardless of excess property or income, DHS is responsible for care and supervision. When there is a chargeback to the commitment county, one-half (up to the amount of the charge to the county) of any income or property used to provide for a youth's care will be credited to that county to reduce the chargeback. Youth with continuing excess income will be changed to a "no charge" status.

**DHS Supervised
Court Wards (Title
IV-E Funded)**

Central Office, Governmental Benefits Coordination and County Chargeback Section, is to be notified by the DHS-3205, Foster Care/Delinquent Ward/Benefit, faxed to 517-335-6147, of any benefits available to DHS supervised court wards receiving title IV-E funding.

**DHS Supervised
Court Wards
(County Funded)**

Any available governmental benefits are to be secured by the county or court and used to apply toward the child's cost of care. For ongoing benefits such as Social Security, the county should request to be made representative payee. Any funds collected are to be reported on the DHS-206B, Monthly Report on Foster Care Under the Family Division of the Circuit Court, form. The result will be that 50 percent of the income will be used to offset county costs and 50 percent to offset state costs. In the event income exceeds cost of care, there should be no direct cost to either the state or the county, and any surplus should be placed in a trust/savings account for the child.

Collection and reporting of court ordered support and reimbursement for DHS-supervised court wards is the responsibility of the Family Court.

Any parental participation in the cost of voluntary foster care or any circuit court ordered support collections are to be reported on the DHS-206B. The 25 percent collection fee is not allowed for voluntary foster care or circuit court ordered supervision.